

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Precedence: IMMEDIATE

Date: 4/13/2001

To: All Field Offices

Attn: SAC

From: Counterterrorism

Usama Bin Laden Unit/SIOC Cat A

Contact: UC Debby Stafford, 202/323-2811

SSA Rodney D. Middleton, 202/323-2623

SSA Kevin A. Cassidy, 202/323-2354

Approved By: Pickard Thomas J  
Watson Dale L  
Rolince Michael E  
Stafford Deborah L

Drafted By: Middleton Rodney D:rdm  
Stremmel Frederick:fs  
Salata John P:jps  
Maitner Jennifer:jm

Case ID #: [REDACTED] (Pending)

Title: [REDACTED] USAMA BIN LADEN  
IT-UBL/AL-QAEDA  
[REDACTED]

Synopsis: [REDACTED] To advise all SACs of continued aggressive and pro-active efforts to counter Usama Bin Laden (UBL) related threats, as evidenced by recent pre-operational planning of key UBL lieutenant and mujahideen facilitator, [REDACTED]

~~Derived From: Multiple Sources  
See Classification Authority Reference  
Section  
Declassify On: X1~~

Classification Authority Reference: [REDACTED]

Details: [REDACTED] The Intelligence Community, in a coordinated Community Advisory, estimates that there is a heightened threat of terrorist attacks against U.S. facilities, personnel, and other interests in coming weeks by Sunni extremists associated with Usama Bin Laden. Reporting strongly suggests an increased

M-HQI-87800001

Declassified by: UC, CTU 1, OGC, FBI  
on: 02/17/2006

To: All Field Offices From: Counterterrorism  
Re: [REDACTED] 4/13/2001

level of planning and activity may be underway which may presage one or more attacks. Indications of terrorist planning and preparation in recent weeks seem to focus on [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] as possible target locations. U.S. interests in [REDACTED] particularly [REDACTED] remain UBL's preferred target. Al-Qaeda associated personnel also are reported to be stepping up efforts to conduct possible attacks in [REDACTED]. The reporting available on Al-Qaeda operations possibly being planned for [REDACTED] contains no information on specific targets. The current reporting suggesting the increased level of threat warning is a compilation of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The Al-Qaeda organization and associated extremists are known to be searching worldwide for security vulnerabilities which might enable a successful attack against U.S. facilities or personnel. Lack of reporting is not indicative of reduced risk as, in addition to the areas discussed above, Sunni extremists are known to have associates located in many areas worldwide. As demonstrated by the attack on the [REDACTED] they are capable of long term surveillance and planning in a target area that enables them to recognize and exploit vulnerabilities, including those that have a limited window of opportunity. Historically, attack planning and execution have taken at least several months.

[REDACTED] Notably, reporting has indicated that Al-Qaeda operatives, [REDACTED] have been involved in operational planning in several different geographic locations. **Reporting** [REDACTED] noted the continued movement of personnel and material between [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], as well as between [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. Additionally, reporting implied that [REDACTED] activities must be completed in the next few weeks, but did not address specific dates.

[REDACTED] UBL's organization may be in the advanced planning stages of a terrorist attack against U.S. interests in [REDACTED]. The reporting involves movement of terrorists from [REDACTED] following training there. Furthermore, explosives and arms are being smuggled into [REDACTED] for use against U.S. and Western targets. However, the Intelligence Community has been unable to narrow the list of potential targets. It should be noted that although UBL's stated preference for [REDACTED] other targets could include [REDACTED] Other possible targets could include [REDACTED] which would be prominently be identified as American.

[REDACTED]

To: All Field Offices From: Counterterrorism  
Re: [REDACTED] 4/13/2001

[REDACTED] Several Islamic jihadists have had a heightened interest in targeting [REDACTED] since [REDACTED] extremist [REDACTED] In [REDACTED] March 2001, a [REDACTED] made plans to expedite work on a suspicious, [REDACTED] terrorist-related activity, which might take place in [REDACTED] travel was planned [REDACTED] the need for haste, as [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Also in [REDACTED] March, [REDACTED] engaged in apparent operational preparation with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

One limiting factor which seems to be evident is funding. Intelligence suggests that preparation is slowed by the lack of available funding to support the operation(s).

M-HQI-87800003

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
To: All Field Offices From: Counterterrorism  
Re: [REDACTED] 4/13/2001

LEAD(s):

Set Lead 1:

ALL RECEIVING OFFICES

[REDACTED] Information contained in this communication should be treated as strictly [REDACTED]. There should be no dissemination outside of the FBI. It is provided for the information of receiving offices as background only.

[REDACTED] Offices are requested to task all resources to include electronic databases and human sources for any information pertaining to the current operational activities relating to Sunni extremism. Recipients are again reminded that the information in this communication should not be used or referred to during discussions with sources/assets.

(U) Any information uncovered through investigations should be provided to FBIHQ, UBLU, immediately via telephone and/or e-mail.

♦♦

M-HQI-87800004  
[REDACTED]  
4